

*Fig. 32.* The same, more advanced stage, showing that the opaque portion or body has withdrawn itself within the dermal membrane or ectoderm, leaving the latter suspended on spicules, which project in bundles from the former, and thus producing the angulated surface first seen in fig. 30, now extend nakedly a little beyond it, leaving a cavity or open interval between it and the opaque body: *aa*, opaque portion or body; *bb*, bundles of spicules; *cc*, dermal membrane or ectoderm; *dd*, its cavity.

Compare this and the following figures with my illustrations to the paper "On the Ultimate Structure of *Spongilla*" ('Annals,' 1857, vol. xx. p. 21, plate i.), in which it will be seen that this dermal membrane is my "investing membrane," and the interval between it and the opaque body its "cavity," in *Spongilla*, also that the pores are situated in the former.

*Fig. 33.* The same, lateral view: *a*, vent, osculum, or termination of the end of the excretory branched canal-system, now fully developed.

*Fig. 34.* The same, embryo torn to pieces in sea-water on a glass slide, and placed under  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch compound power; showing that the skeleton-structure, now consisting of the spicules bundled together and held in position by cornified sarcodæ, is fully developed into the form of that of the parent, the dermal membrane or sarcodæ, and also the spongozoa and ampullaceous sacs: *aa*, skeleton-structure; *bb*, sarcodæ of the opaque or parenchymatous body charged with fully developed ampullaceous sacs, separate spongozoa, cells of different sizes below these, and granules; *cc*, ampullaceous sacs; *d*, spongozoon separate; *ee*, dermal or "investing" membrane; *ff*, its cavity; *g*, more magnified view of monociliated spongozoa.

#### LI.—Description of a new Helix from Southern India.

By W. T. BLANFORD, F.R.S.

AN immature specimen of a very fine species of snail allied to *Hemiplecta basileus* (Bs.) was sent to me some years since by Colonel Beddome, to whom we owe so many discoveries amongst the numerous and peculiar molluscan forms inhabiting the forests of the Southern Indian hill-ranges. I named the species after the discoverer, but on further examination resolved not to describe it, as the characters taken from the young shell approached so closely to those of *H. basileus* and *H. Chenui* that there must have been difficulty in recognizing it. Recently Colonel Beddome has shown me a full-grown specimen, which he has presented to the British Museum; and from this I have taken the following description:—

#### *Hemiplecta Beddomei*, sp. n.

*H.* testa aperte perforata, convexo-depressa, tenuiuscula, oblique striata lineisque impressis spiralibus decussata, sulcis brevibus obliquis subspiralibus rugata; subtus levior, nitidula, striis radi-

antibus sulcisque parvis subspiralibus decussata; albido-cornea, fascia lata fusco-castanea infra peripheriam cineta, epidermide fulva induta; spira convexa, apice perobtusum, sutura lineari, antice vix impressa; anfr.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  planiusculis, sensim accrescentibus, ultimo antice haud descendente, ad peripheriam obtuse angulato, subtus convexo; apertura obliqua, subovato-lunata, intus opalina, fascia lata castanea infra peripheriam conspicua; peristomate recto, tenui, ad umbilicum breviter reflexo. Diam. maj. 50 millim., minor 41, axis 24; apertura 27.5 lata, 21.5 oblique alta.

*Hab.* ad latus occidentale montium in provincia 'Travancore' dicta, Indiae australis.

This shell perhaps resembles the Ceylonese *H. Chenui* more than any Indian shell; but it is much more openly perforate, the aperture somewhat differently shaped, and the sculpture, though very similar, shows marked distinctions; the shell is larger and far more angulate at the periphery, especially near the mouth.

From the young shell of *H. basileus* the present form may be recognized by its very different sculpture, its much shorter axis and lower spire, by the last whorl being far less inflated below, and consequently by the lower margin of the peristome being less convex; it is a much thinner shell, and the coloration is much browner.

The sculpture is peculiar: the striæ of growth are crossed by impressed spiral lines, and by short, shallow, oblique furrows at right angles to the striæ, and meeting the spiral lines at an acute angle.

The locality at which alone this shell has been found is south of Peermede and on the west side of the Travancore hills, in Southern India.

LII.—Notes on the *Ægeriidae*, with Descriptions of new Genera and Species. By ARTHUR GARDINER BUTLER, F.L.S., F.Z.S., Senior Assistant, Zoological Department, British Museum.

#### ÆGERIA, Fabr.

DR. STAUDINGER, in his 'Catalog der Lepidopteren' (1871), has omitted Walker's species, *Æ. agathiformis*, Cat. Lep. Het. viii. p. 34. n. 54 (1856). Even supposing this species to be identical with any other previously described, it ought not to have been left out of a professedly complete catalogue of European Lepidoptera; he has also omitted to place *Æ. agri-*